

B.) Amendments to the claims:

I claim:

11 (Currently Amended): A soundboard for an acoustic musical instrument comprising a core plate having two opposite faces and a plurality of single layer fibre coating sections adhered on at least one of the faces of said core plate, each of said fibre coating sections being composed of elongate fibres embedded in a carrier, the fibres of each of said coating sections being so arranged ~~on said one of said faces of said core plate~~ as to be multidirectional.

12 (previously added): The soundboard according to claim 11 wherein in at least one of said coating sections the distribution of fibres per unit area varies.

13 (previously added): The soundboard according to claim 11 wherein at least some of the fibres in at least some of said coating sections have direction changes.

14 (previously added): The soundboard according to claim 11 wherein the fibres in at least some of said coating sections are arranged in groups extending in a similar direction.

15 (previously added): The soundboard according to claim 11 wherein the coating sections are in the form of strips.

16 (previously added): The soundboard according to claim 15 wherein at least some of the strips are separated from one another by gaps.

17 (previously added): The soundboard according to claim 11 wherein the fibres of at least some of said sections have varying thicknesses.

18 (previously added): The soundboard of claim 11 including a